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BLM Colorado Priorities • 2009

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In Colorado, BLM is responsible for the stewardship of 8.3 million acres of public land and 27 million acres of public mineral estate. BLM Colorado is committed to transparent, collaborative management of these lands and resources based on sound science. Our priorities for 2009 include:

Healthy Lands – Healthy Communities

The foundation of all that we do must be to maintain and enhance the health of our lands and resources, ensuring healthy vegetation, wildlife populations, stable soils and the quantity and quality of our water. Healthy lands are essential to healthy communities and economies throughout the West.

- Increase partnerships and on-the-ground projects for our Healthy Lands Initiative
- Place special emphasis on sage grouse habitat and control of invasive species
- Address forest health, including pine beetle infestations and declining aspen stands
- Manage fire to benefit both natural systems and communities

Land Use Planning – Framework for the Future

BLM Colorado continues to work with cooperating agencies and the public to chart the course for public lands and resources for the next 20 years, ranging from Resource Management Plans (RMPs) to plan amendments and activity and travel plans.

- Ensure collaboration is the foundation of all plans
- Increase public outreach and public participation opportunities
- Encourage cooperating agency and advisory council involvement
- Move toward a system of designated routes on public lands

Energy – Doing it Right, Doing it Responsibly

In the energy arena – including oil and gas, coal, oil shale, and renewable energy – BLM Colorado will set the standard for environmentally responsible energy development.

- Encourage a cooperative statewide strategic approach to renewable and non-renewable energy issues
- Work with partners on all aspects of energy development to lessen impacts
- Place additional emphasis on inspection, enforcement, and environmental compliance

Special Places – Special Care

Colorado public lands include a number of special places, including areas in the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS). We are committed to keeping them special.

- Implement Colorado's Recreation and NLCS strategic plans
- Complete planning for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
- Update the Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway plan
- Protect wilderness resources in designated Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas.
- Conserve our significant historic and cultural resources

BLM Colorado strives to use good communication, build strong partnerships, and ensure integrity in all aspects of our multiple use mission. We support and maintain a diverse, professional and productive workforce.

